

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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For more information contact Sharon Davis, Director Nutrition Services at 402-471-2488 or Sharon.L.Davis@nebraska.gov

## SUMMER FOOD SERVICE SPONSORS SOLICITED

2016 Nebraska Summer Food Service Program Grant Released

The Nebraska Department of Education Nutrition Services is seeking potential sponsors to operate the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) in Nebraska.

Eligible sponsors include public or private non-profit schools, residential camps, and local, municipal, county or state government sites as well as private, nonprofit sponsors and organizations.

The SFSP operates during the summer or any school vacation of at least three weeks in schools with a continuous school year calendar. Meals and snacks are usually served to children in such places as schools, churches, playgrounds or parks.

The SFSP was created to ensure that children in low-income areas can continue to receive meals during long school vacations when they do not have access to the school lunch or breakfast.

Nutrition Services has grant funds available to assist new and existing SFSP sponsors with expenses for expanding and/or initiating SFSP services. Each applicant may apply for a maximum of \$15,000 per year.

To be eligible as a SFSP sponsor and to apply for grant funding, organizations must be located within the boundaries of a school district in which 50 percent or more of the students qualify for free and reduced lunches or be-within the boundaries of a census tract in which 50 percent or more of the children fall below the poverty threshold as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture. To verify your eligibility, contact Nutrition Services at 402-471-2488 (Lincoln) or 1-800-731-2233 (outside of Lincoln).

To download a grant application, visit the Nebraska Department of Education Nutrition Services web page at: http://www.education.ne.gov/NS/SFSP/news.html

For more information about sponsoring a SFSP feeding-site or to apply for grant funds, contact Sharon Davis, Director, Nutrition Services, Nebraska Department of Education, 301 Centennial Mall South, P.O. Box 94987, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509, or at 800-731-2233 or 402-471-2488.

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(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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